

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

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POSITION STATEMENTS RELATED TO RADIOGRAPHY **ISSUED BY THE RADIOGRAPHY EXAMINING BOARD**

Q: WHAT IS CONSIDERED THE PRACTICE OF RADIOGRAPHY?

- The practice of radiography means the imaging of anatomic structures produced by the application of x-rays to the human body for the purpose of medical diagnosis. This includes operation of all x-ray emitting devices such as computed tomography, mammography, fluoroscopy, and general diagnostic imaging.

Bone densitometry, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), sonography, nuclear medicine, and radiation therapy treatment planning are not included under [Chap. 462, Stats.](#)

Q: WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN A RADIOGRAPHY LICENSE?

- The Radiography Examining Board may grant a license to a person who holds an active ARRT certification as a Radiologic Technologist. Active ARRT certification is evidence that the person is at least 18 years of age, holds a high school diploma or equivalent, has completed a JRCERT (Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology) approved or ARRT approved course of study and has passed the certification examination from the ARRT.

Q: WHAT IS A RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST?

- A radiographer or radiologic technologist is person who has completed an approved course of study equivalent to the standards adopted by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) or a regionally accredited college or university radiography and the approved national examination. A person who has completed these requirements is eligible for licensure and may practice radiography and use the title radiographer.

Q: WHAT PROCEDURES ARE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF A RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST?

- The state of Wisconsin adheres to the scope of practice as defined by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT). Please see the ASRT publication entitled "The Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy."

Q: HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER I NEED A RADIOGRAPHY LICENSE OR LXMO PERMIT?

- A license to practice radiography authorizes the licensee to perform a full range of diagnostic radiographic procedures. A LXMO permit authorizes the permit holder to operate x-ray equipment for diagnostic purposes on limited areas of the body, categorized in the modules listed above.

If you are ARRT certified, or will soon qualify for an ARRT certificate, you should apply for a radiography license. If you are taking radiographs, but you are not a student or ARRT certified, you should apply for the LXMO permit.

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Q: IS BONE DENSITOMETRY WITHIN THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF RADIOGRAPHY?

- No, the practice of radiography does not include bone densitometry.

Q: WHO IS REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A LICENSE OR PERMIT IN WISCONSIN?

- Anyone who operates a device that utilizes x-rays for human medical diagnosis is required to hold a license to practice radiography or a permit as a limited X-Ray machine operator (LXMO) unless exempted (see below). This is pursuant to [Chap. 462, Stats.](#)

Q: ARE THERE EXEMPTIONS TO THE LICENSURE/PERMIT REQUIREMENT?

- Yes. This does not apply to a physician, physician assistant, chiropractor, dentist, dental hygienist, a podiatrist who takes the images directly, a person directly supervised by a chiropractor who has completed a training program approved by the Chiropractic Examining Board, or a person directly supervised by a podiatrist who has completed a training program approved by the Podiatrists Affiliated Credentialing Board.

Q: WHAT ABOUT INDIVIDUALS WHO OPERATE PET/CT AND SPECT/CT?

- This specialized imaging modality is covered under [s. DHS 157.80, Wis. Admin. Code](#), and is not included in [Chap 462, Stats.](#) If, however, the CT scanner is operated for diagnostic purposes, the operator must hold a radiography license.

Q: HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET MY LICENSE/PERMIT AFTER APPLICATION IS SENT?

- After all items have been received and approved, the Department may issue the license or permit within 7 to 10 business days. Common reasons for a lag in application processing include, high application volumes, failure to submit all required application materials, and board review of prior disciplinary or criminal history. A person can check the status of their license or permit application on-line at <http://dsps.wi.gov>. If your application is complete and you have not received your license after 10 business days, please contact the Department.

Q: CAN I BEGIN THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A LICENSE OR PERMIT WHILE STILL IN SCHOOL?

- Yes. You may begin the application process prior to meeting all the requirements for licensure. To speed the issuance of licensure or a permit, the Board recommends that those interested in obtaining a license or permit begin the application process approximately 6 months prior to graduation or completion of your program.

Q: HOW OFTEN DO I NEED TO RENEW A LICENSE OR PERMIT?

- The license and permit is good for a period of two years, which is renewable on even years. If you have been granted a license or permit on or after March 1, 2012 or before September 1, 2012 you are not required to renew until September 1, 2014.

Q: ARE THERE CONTINUING EDUCATION (CEU) REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL?

- There are 24 units of continuing education required for each 2-year renewal period for the licensed radiographer.

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Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO RETAIN FOR PROOF OF CONTINUING EDUCATION (CEU)?

- Proof of active certification by American Registry of Radiologic Technologists shall constitute adequate proof of compliance with continuing education requirements.

Q: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSURING THAT RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS ARE PROPERLY LICENSED?

- Each individual who practices is individually responsible for maintaining licensure in good standing.

Licensed professionals who hire or utilize the services of a radiologic technologist are reminded that employment or delegation to persons who are not properly credentialed may constitute aiding and abetting unlicensed practice. Therefore, licensed professionals who knowingly or recklessly hire or utilize the services of non-credentialed persons may be found to have violated a rule or law substantially related to their own profession.